

(vi) Aquaculture industry/shrimp culture industry/shrimp culture ponds other than traditional and improved traditional may be set up/constructed outside the Coastal Regulation Zone with prior approval of the 'Authority'.

(vii) The authority, in consultation with expert bodies like National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Central Pollution Control Board, respective State Pollution Control Boards shall frame scheme/schemes for reversing the damage caused to the ecology and environment by pollution in the coastal States/Union Territories.

Persons Below Poverty Line

4706. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large section of people below poverty line in Kerala are deprived of the benefits of the Targeted Revised Public Distribution System (TRPDS) due to Centre's unscientific guidelines which are without giving any consideration to the special circumstances prevailing in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Emissions of Green House Gases

4707. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any in-depth study of the problem of environmental threat caused by emissions of greenhouse gases in India which is supposed to be sixth largest producer of carbondioxide emissions;

(b) if so, the details of the study made and the agency which had undertaken the study; and

(c) the steps being contemplated to combat the growing menace of this problem?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Under a Technical Assistance Project from the Asian Development Bank, the Government has completed in 1994 a study entitled "CLIMATE CHANGE IN ASIA: India Country Report" wherein analyses of vulnerability to climatic and weather related events, the potential impacts of climate change and

preliminary estimates of National greenhouse gas emissions have been worked out. In this study, scientists and experts from various research institutions and universities such as National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi; Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi had participated.

(c) The Government is seized of the problem and is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. As per the existing obligations under this treaty, India is not required to adopt any national greenhouse gas reduction target (s). However, the country's existing legal and policy framework in the area of environment provides for combating the projected climate change.

Disease in Wheat Crops

4708. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a disease has been spread in the crop of wheat in North and Central Bihar due to which wheat has turned poisonous and the farmers have suffered huge losses;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to compensate the farmers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :
(a) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that Ear-cockle disease of wheat has been reported in some scattered patches in Gaya, Vaishali, Darbhanga and Madhubani districts in North and Central Bihar. The diseased galls are not edible but the gall free wheat grains are not poisonous. About 3 to 20% of the wheat grains have been found affected by the disease in the disease-affected areas.

(b) to (d) In view of reply to part (a) of the Question, Union Government have not formulated any scheme to compensate the farmers. However, soon after receipt of information about the occurrence of the disease, State/ Central Governments organised field surveys to assess the disease situation. Vigorous publicity and awareness campaign has been launched to educate the farmers to avoid recurrence of the disease in future by sowing disease-gall free seeds.

Assistance for Fodder Banks

4709. SHRI N. J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :